**Romeo & Juliet Web quest**

**Craig Mayle**

1. Click on the link to Birth 1564 & Early Years. William Shakespeare was born in what year?

* **1564**

1. What date do we recognize as his birthday?

* **April 23rd is the date we recognize as his birthday.**

1. What was important about Stratford-upon-Avon in the 16th century?

* **It was an agricultural center.**

1. Click on the link for 1594 and find the acting companies Shakespeare was associated with in the early days. Name one.

* **The Queens Men was one of the acting companies in the early days.**

1. Click on 1599 The Great Globe. What is the probable year that Romeo and Juliet was written?

* **1595 was the probable year Romeo and Juliet was written.**

1. Scroll down to the section "Construction of the Globe," and answer these questions:
   * Where did the timbers to build the Globe come from?
   * **They took it from pieces of The Theatre**
   * Who was the carpenter who built the Globe?
   * **Peter Smith built the Globe.**
   1. What was Shakespeare's share as "householder?"

* **One fifth, fifty percent of the profits or 10%**

1. What day and year did Shakespeare die? Why is this an *interesting* date? How old was Shakespeare when he died?

* **April 23rd , 1616. It was interesting because this is the same date he was born. He had died at the age of 52.**

**About Marriage**  
Click on [this link](http://elizabethan.org/compendium/9.html) and answer the next questions (8-10).

1. Romeo & Juliet marry secretly, but because she is trying to escape the arranged marriage to Paris. Read this site about marriage in Elizabethan England and answer these questions.
   1. What does betrothal mean?

* **A betrothal was another word for a wedding during the Renaissance.**
  1. Name three marriage and betrothal customs found on this page.
* **Boys were legal to marry at 14, girls 12, Contract and The Bridal Procession**

1. Click on the link for "more wedding customs."
   1. What color should the bride's dress be?

* **The bride could wear any color of her choosing.**
  1. How is the intention to marry announced? What happens if it is not announced previous to the event?
* **The intention to marry is announced at the church; it would be considered illegal if it were not announced previous of the event.**
  1. Describe the wedding procession.
* **The wedding is always a religious ceremony, conducted by a minister.**
  1. What is a dowry?
* **A dowry is the amount of money, goods and property the bride brings to the marriage.**

1. Explain how important is a wedding ring to the Elizabethans?

* **They are very important because they were often expensive**

**About Food**  
Click on [this link](http://elizabethan.org/compendium/46.html) and continue (11-13).

1. How many meals do people generally eat each day?

* **2 meals called Dinner and Supper would be eaten each day.**

1. Click [here](http://elizabethan.org/compendium/38.html). Why would people in Shakespeare's day not know what a chocolate chip cookie is?

* **People in Shakespeare’s day do not know what a chocolate chip cookie is because in that time, chocolate was only used as for medical situations.**

1. Lord Capulet throws a huge party, feast and all. Imagine you are in charge of that menu. Luckily for you, today you only have to plan a menu for a small dinner party. Be sure to use only [food available in Europe](http://elizabethan.org/compendium/47.html) during this time. Choose at least two vegetables, two meats, and two fruits or nuts.

* **The two vegetables for this dinner party could be peas and spinach. Two meats that were available at the time were chicken and duck. And finally, two types of fruits that could be served are apples and melons.**

**About Language**  
Click on [this link](http://elizabethan.org/compendium/20.html) and continue (14-16).

1. A famous line from Romeo and Juliet is when Juliet says, "Romeo, Romeo, wherefore art thou Romeo?" What does "wherefore" mean?

* Wherefore means why.

1. What does "stay" mean?

* Stay means “to wait”

1. [Click here](http://elizabethan.org/compendium/29.html) to get the information you need to translate this conversation. Put your translation in column two. Keep the phrases just about the same, but use Elizabethan words where you can. So, in other words, you rewrite the entire phrase but replace as many words as you can using Elizabethan English.

* Person B- God Thank you! Person A- Gramercy, Person B- Do you happen to know where the little room of office is? Person A- Certes. It’s down the street in the King’s Tavern. Person B- Gramercy. Bye.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Person B** | Gesundheit! |  |
| **A** | Thank you. |  |
| **B** | Say, do you know where the closest bathroom is? |  |
| **A** | Certainly. It's down the street in the Kings Tavern. |  |
| **B** | Thanks. Goodbye. |  |

**About Theatre in Shakespeare's Time**  
"[Actors, Acting, & Audience](http://www.uni-koeln.de/phil-fak/englisch/shakespeare/)" is the link for the next questions (16-19).

1. How many women actors did the company usually feature?

* There were usually no women that acted

1. Was Shakespeare an actor? What was the term used to refer to actors?

* No, the term he used was “players”

1. How were the seating arrangements for the audience? How did one get a good seat?

* The audience was close packed and there were no reserved seats. To get a good seat, you would have to come early.

1. What would the audience do if they did not like a performance?

* The would pelt him with oranges or anything handy.

**Shakespearean Insults**

1. Go to the [Shakespearean Insult Kit](http://www.mit.edu:8001/people/dryfoo/Funny-pages/shakespeare-insult-kit.html) and create your own insult. How you do it is to start with the word "Thou." Next, take a phrase/word from the first column to begin your insult, continue by adding something from the second column, and finish it up royally with something from the third column. Type your own personal Shakespearean insult in the table below. [Thou + choice from column 1 + choice from column 2 + choice from column 3 = your custom made insult].

* Thou goatish, scut, varlot!